

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 305618
ORIGIN NEA-10

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O 170055Z DEC 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 305618

STADIS////////////////////////////////////
FOR CHARGE FROM NEA/ARN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PFOR, PINS, EAD, LE

SUBJECT: DISCUSSIONS WITH TUEINI

REF: BEIRUT 8655

1. YOU SHOULD BE FOREWARNED OF POSSIBILITY WE MAY SEND AN AID TEAM OF ABOUT 3 OR 4 PEOPLE TO BEIRUT FOR FOUR DAYS AS EARLY AS DEC. 18 TO LOOK INTO SOME HIGH PRIORITY RELIEF AND REHABILITATION PROBLEMS, FINISHING UP THEIR JOB BEFORE CHRISTMAS. TUEINI IS TELEPHONING SARKIS AND OTHERS ABOUT THIS POSSIBILITY AND WILL LET US KNOW EARLY FRIDAY MORNING. YOU WILL HAVE TO SEE TO THEIR TRANSPORT, SECURITY PROTECTION, AND TRANSLATION HELP. PLEASE DO NOT, HOWEVER, TAKE ANY STEPS UNTIL HEARING OFFICIAL WORD FROM US. THEY WILL COME VIA DAMASCUS.

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2. TUEINI ALSO RELAYED TO US A REQUEST FROM SARKIS, CONVEYED BY TELEPHONE, THAT THE U.S. HELP EQUIP THE INTERNAL SECURITY FORCE WHICH TUEINI SAID WAS NOW BEING FORMED MORE RAPIDLY THAN ANYONE HAD EXPECTED. TUEINI GUESSED THAT YOU WOULD SHORTLY BE GETTING LISTS OF RE-

QUIREMENTS (POSSIBLY DIFFERENT THAN THOSE REPORTED REFTEL).
YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT THERE ARE LEGAL OBSTACLES TO GRANT OR
FMS ASSISTANCE FOR POLICE OR INTERNAL SECURITY FORCES. WE
WILL BE EXAMINING THE PROBLEM, HOWEVER, TO SEE WHAT WE CAN
DO, RATHER THAN WHAT WE CANNOT DO. WOULD APPRECIATE
YOUR CONTINUING ASSESSMENT OF WHETHER AND HOW RAPIDLY
THESE FORCES ARE BEING BROUGHT INTO BEING.
ROBINSON

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NNN

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